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LAMBDA

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SGA Election results are in

BY NEIL ZACHARJEWICZ
ASSISTANT EDITOR

The students have spoken, and the now the new Students' General Association (SGA) is preparing to take office for the new year.

Luke Norton received his mandate as the new President of the SGA, receiving 455 votes. The closest candidate in the running was Dave Green, who finished second with 354 votes. The third and final candidate for president was Vaughan Blakely, who finished with 174 votes.

There was an even wider gap in between the top candidate in the Vice President - Issues race. Incumbent candidate Shailagh Keaney was given the nod for a second term, receiving 422 votes. The race for runner-up was a close one, with Jennifer Fry receiving 286 votes, three more than John Lennard at 283.

Shanna Denis was elected the new Vice President - Services, receiving 388 votes. Jordan Glass was the runner-up with 320 votes, while Kevin Mason rounded out the slate of candidates with 240 votes.

Voters had their choice of three of four possible candidates for Senator, and Erica Robinson proved to be a strong candidate, raking in 557 votes. Next up was Alex Paterson, who netted 422 votes. Tasha Denis snagged the third and final seat on Senate with 353 votes. The fourth candidate, Neil Pearson, received a total of 317 votes.

It seems students are in favour of the new Phys Ed field-house project. The project received strong support from the voting public, with 755 of the 975 people who voted on the referendum voting in favour of the new facility. As a result, students will pay a Student Recreation Centre Capital Levy, which will total \$30 in 2005/06, rise to \$50 in 2006/07, before settling at \$75 beginning in 2007, and continuing until the project is completed. The levy replaces the current levy students pay toward the Students' Centre, which will be paid off at the end of the 2004/05 school year.

LU students take some time to "chill"



Thomas Gerry / FOR LAMBDA

Professor Thomas M.F. Gerry, Chair of the Department of English, catches some students literally chilling out on Laurentian's naturally gifted campus. If you can't beat the snow - why not enjoy some winter sports like snowboarding!

Metal heads rock TowneHouse

BY KRIS HARRIS
LAMBDA STAFF

The metal gods must have been smiling upon the TowneHouse on Saturday, March 19, when three of Northern Ontario's heaviest bands took to the stage.

Headlining the show was Sudbury's own Beyond Within, who used the opportunity to release their second album, a five-track demo CD entitled "Evil Minds". Backing them up was another local group, Fleshcraft, who has opened for the likes of Napalm Death, Cryptopsy and Infernal Majesty.

Leading off the powerhouse line-up was Defined, who hail from nearby Sturgeon Falls. Defined brought their melodic guitars and soothing, soulful vocals to town to open up the evening. This hard rock group consists of Jon Rioux on vocals, Steve Lajeunesse on the drums, Patrick Malette and Jamie Colombe on guitars and Neil Landry on bass.

The band's most recent success was winning the XTreme Band Slam competition for Northern Ontario, beating out 13 other bands for the honour. By taking first place in this prestigious event, Defined was sent to the national Band Slam finals,



Kris Harris / LAMBDA

Fleshcraft, pictured above, played to a packed house on March 19. Joining the local group was Beyond Within, who released their second CD at the event.

where they showcased their tunes in front of Canada's finest record executives and other musical bigwigs at the Canadian Music Week Festival.

Defined played a good set at the TowneHouse, relying on the crowd's immense energy level and effectively setting the stage for the heavier bands

that were to follow.

When Fleshcraft emerged from the shadows and hit the stage, the crowd's energy increased and intensified; immediately, the floor in front of the stage was packed with metal-heads, rendering movement impossible. The only activity that was managed was constant head-banging, until the mosh pit opened up, of course.

"Basically we're trying to put black and death metal - the best of both genres - together as one unified thing," said Mark Howitt, lead singer for Fleshcraft. "We want to be the heaviest band in Sudbury."

And they're making a case for themselves. Guitarist Jean Guy Demers pounded out aggressive riffs, pausing every so often to seamlessly incorporate an insane solo into the mix. Tim Sanders beat the living hell out of his bass, and Marc Hache pounded his kit until it seemed the skins would surely break (they didn't, but it was close). Howitt filled the set out with his ear-shattering vocals, generally screamed at the top of his powerful lungs.

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Include your full name and student number. Please keep articles to a maximum of 700 words. Lambda reserves the right to edit for content considered sexist, racist, homophobic, heterosexist or for length. Letters of a harrasing or slanderous nature will be dealt with by the proper authorities.

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Please e-mail submissions to lambda@laurentian.ca. Ensure the attached file is saved as TEXT or Word because we cannot transfer other files to Mac format. To be considered for print, all submissions must have your name and student number

EDITOR'S CORNER

Another year in the books for Lambda Publications



DEBBIE SAUVE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

This is the last issue of Lambda and I am happy to say that we survived. At times, it has been a delicate balancing act between school and the paper, and without a committed staff, I would have never been able to keep my head above waves of work.

So on that note, I would like to send out thanks to our 2004/2005 staff (in the order

in which they were hired): Kris Harris, Luke Norton, Ben Rowe, James Hopkin, Neil Zacharjewicz, Robin Crowder and Kevin Roche. All of you have done a great job week after week, and I thank you for your commitment.

I would also like to thank the many students, staff and interested parties who took time out of their busy schedules to volunteer for the paper. Whether you covered a play for us, sent a letter to the editor, or just a rant; our paper depends greatly on those of you who have shared your experiences with us and the Laurentian community. Thank-you for your submissions.

Lambda, like any other business, has gone through many ups and downs over its 43 year history at Laurentian. I am proud to say that I have been a part of

this tradition and look forward to reading the paper for years to come. I urge any of you who were interested in writing for the paper this year and didn't, to try your hand at it next year; I know there are at least a few of you out there based on how many stopped by the office this year.

For myself, I am getting ready to graduate. Soon I will be finishing up my last assignments, last exams, and last days at university. It makes me almost go back to how I felt when I wrote my first column for Lambda. Then I said, "Moving. It can be more than just a change of surroundings - it can be a change of mindset, a change of lifestyle, a change of heart." Now, I am getting ready to move on and I am not sure yet what my mindset is, nor where my lifestyle will take me, nor how my heart feels about the whole

thing.

Nonetheless, I have spent some time looking over job ads and wondering where I would fit in and what direction I want to take myself and my career; I suppose only time will tell.

For now, I am enjoying my last days as a student and my bittersweet ending with Lambda. I wish Lambda the best of luck next year and hope all of you will continue reading. We are, after all, here to serve you.

Have a great summer,

Debbie Sauve
Editor-in-Chief
lambda@laurentian.ca

High voter turnout at SGA Elections

Now that the Student General Association election furor has died down, and the new council elect has been chosen, it is time to send out a resounding applause to the real winners of the SGA election: the students who voted.

What the voting members of the SGA have done this year is downright amazing. Of the approximately 4,700 students who were eligible to vote in this year's election, a whopping 20 percent of those students paid a visit to the ballot box. That figure represents roughly 940 students who chose to exercise their right to vote.

I know, I know. Twenty percent does not seem to be that high a number. Wouldn't it be better if everyone eligible voted? But the truth is, by comparison to other university associations across the country, the voters who annually select the SGA Executive are a motivated bunch.

Last year Laurentian's SGA boast an 18 percent voter rate, which was deemed higher than some other university associations at that time. This year, even more people voted to decide the new executive, and that is a remarkable figure.

By comparison, take a look at Lakehead University. In their last student council election, voter turn-out was only 10 percent.

This years voter turn-out at Laurentian was comparable to many other Ontario universities, such as Brock (21.2 percent) and Guelph (which was slightly over 21 percent). Among the highest were Nipissing (with over half of their student population voting) and Queen's University, who boasts a voter turn-out of 33 percent.

So why is voter turn-out on the rise at Laurentian? Probably a lot of things, but I like to think it's because Laurentian students increasingly feel they have a greater stake in their school. We take pride in our school. Sure, we are somewhat of an underdog to some of the larger universities in Ontario, and admittedly we tend to take a bashing in the national media (ie MacLean's magazine). But at the root of it all, setting aside all of our frustrations about assignments and how we can't wait for summer to arrive, this institution holds a special place in our hearts. We've made many friendships here, some that will last a lifetime, and we have all become richer for the experience. And when it comes time to vote, we want to make sure we have the right people in

office to continue to make Laurentian University a memorable experience for the graduates of 2006, 2007 and so on down the line.

So to all the voters who chose to vote in the SGA election last week, thank you for caring about your school. It's people like you who make Laurentian a great school to attend.

Sincerely,

Neil Zacharjewicz
Assistant Editor

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SPACE FOR RANT

Letter to the Editor: Bookstore proposal

To the Editor:

In response to the article that appeared on the front page of the March 17, 2005 Lambda (New Chapter for Laurentian Bookstore), the Laurentian University Staff Union (LUSU) is compelled to set the record straight. This article contains information that is either erroneous, or indicates that LUSU has been lied to by the university. In addition, the article implies that protection of the employees that currently work in the bookstore has been taken care of, yet LUSU was certainly not contacted by Neil Zacharjewicz, the author of the article, to discuss this, and it is an issue that we contend is most certainly not guaranteed.

First, the article begins by stating "The final fate of the Laurentian University Bookstore will be determined in the near future, with a recommendation from the Bookstore Review Committee to accept the proposal from Follett's". I don't know who coined the title Bookstore Review Committee, however, this committee was a request for proposals review committee, as LUSU understands it. The distinction may not be obvious to the readers, but the committee was only formed for the express purpose of evaluating the proposals submitted by companies responding to a legal request for proposals. To imply with a title such as "Bookstore Review Committee" that this committee had undertaken to complete an evaluation of the Laurentian Bookstore, its services, prices, etc., is misleading readers into believing that the level of service, prices, etc. were ever in question. In fact, to my knowledge, there were no formal complaints about the bookstore. Instead, the university undertook to go to a request for proposals situation merely because they could, and not because there was some underlying dysfunction in the way the bookstore is operating.

In stating that this RFP Review Committee consulted with students, and teachers, LUSU would like to see some offer of proof of this fact. The RFP committee did have a representative from the Teaching and Learning Committee. A professor, who sat on this committee, not as a professor, not as a member of the Laurentian University Faculty Association (LUFA). To say that the RFP committee had a student representative is somewhat of a misnomer as well. Tannys Laughren, who sat on the committee, supposedly as the "student rep" is not, in fact, a student. She is an employee of the SGA: the Executive Director, which is a position, I might add, that only came into existence after her term as an officer of the SGA, when she was a student, a number of years ago. I think it is very important for the readers, in particular the students, to realize that their "student rep" isn't actually a student. If the RFP committee consulted with any other student groups, or faculty it certainly wasn't mentioned to LUSU, nor publicized. Members of LUFA involved with the running of that particular union have gone out of their way to inform me that the opinion of the professor on this committee in no way reflects the opinion of LUFA.

The comment attributed to Mr. Gerry Labelle, "We have heard nothing but very positive comments", in reference to feedback from other institutions is also erroneous. On a number of occasions Mr. Labelle indicated to LUSU that this type of arrangement hadn't worked out well at other institutions. In my own notes from the last meeting Mr. Labelle held with the LUSU staff of the bookstore he stated that Tannys Laughren had contacted the student associations at the schools (universities and colleges) that currently use Follett's and "all had concerns with pricing". He also went on to say that McGill, the

first university to attempt outside management of their bookstore, had a disaster on their hands in two months.

The point made in reference to Ms. Laughren contacting other student unions and other stakeholders, LUSU also takes exception to. The article goes on to imply that Ms. Laughren single-handedly ensured various key items were addressed including protecting the staff. Ms. Laughren did not consult with LUSU about the protection of the staff. I had to seek her out to try to explain that a clause in the RFP that would require any company taking over bookstore management to reimburse the university for the LUSU employee salaries, benefits, and other associated costs could only be detrimental to these employees. The reason is that despite all of the verbal assurances in the world from Mr. Labelle that these employees will remain university employees, and consequently LUSU members, this clause has the effect of making these positions de facto Follett's positions. No company that is paying for salaries, benefits, sick leave, EI, etc., could possibly see it any other way. The university has also specifically refused to recognize some employees on this campus as LUSU bargaining members because their salaries are grant funded, SGA funded, or otherwise funded from a pot of money other than university money. They would argue that the same circumstances apply to the bookstore employees.

Mr. Labelle's statement that "There is only going to be one Follett's employee, and that is the manager" is also erroneous. The RFP, which becomes part of the actual contract, states very clearly that the company can hire other employees. They may not do so at first, but LUSU fears that if our members become disgruntled and leave their positions this clause will allow Follett's (or any other company) to bring in its own employees at minimum wage, in part time positions, with no benefits or union protection.

The end of the article is very disturbing in the spin it is trying to use, again, to imply that there was something wrong with the bookstore in the first place. Mr. Labelle tries to entice the reader by mentioning the "considerable capital investment" Follett's is supposedly willing to put into the physical facility. And, "Come September you will see a much rejuvenated bookstore". I don't believe the current bookstore could possibly be classified as shabby. We've seen this type of enticement before. When the university decided not to renew Marriot Foods contract for the operation of the Great Hall we were promised that Aramark was going to come in and make a considerable capital investment. They made an investment, however, one look at their website made it very clear that their investment at other universities went way above and beyond what was accomplished here at Laurentian. Have food prices gone up? They certainly have. Are the lines in the Great Hall any shorter? No. Is anyone any happier with the food? No, it is pretty much the same artery clogging stuff that was being served before. Bookstore prices will go up as well. Follett's is a huge American company that is in business for a profit. While they may trick into thinking that they are offering something better, keep in mind that they make their money off of used books. Selling the same book over and over again allows them to rake in millions of dollars. Just because students will be able to buy a cheaper used text book does not mean that everything else in the store will be cheaper. Prices will go up. The only item that the university has made it clear that it won't accept huge price increases on is text books. Follett's will make its money where it can, and that will be on



Debbie Sauve / LAMBDA

all the other "little" items that are sold in the bookstore.

Finally, LUSU has a significant problem with the process by which the university went about this. When we were initially informed that an RFP was going out for the management of the bookstore we were told that the evaluation committee would be made up of certain people from the administration: Mr. Labelle, Mr. Ray Coutu (Director of Purchasing), Mr. Ron Chrysler (VP Administration). These are natural choices, and by no means a surprise. Mr. Labelle also informed LUSU that someone from Commerce might be asked to join for their business experience. At no time were we told that there would be a student representative or a faculty member from any other committee on campus. A committee structure of this kind gives the appearance of impartiality while at the same time key stakeholders are obviously not a part of the process. LUSU continually asked for representation on the RFP committee. I would think that LUFA would have also wanted official representation. LUSU was told that we would have a conflict of interest. In fact, we would contend that every member of the committee has a conflict of interest. The administrative delegates are obviously trying to please the Board of Governors by making it look like Laurentian just gained the entire pot of money that would have been paid out in employee salaries. A prime example of very creative accounting. How can the university come up with more money, without really bringing more money in? Get an outside company to start paying employee salaries. Ms. Laughren has a conflict of interest because students have to buy their books in the bookstore. Mr. Claude Vincente (rep. of the Teaching and Learning committee) has a conflict of interest because he requires his students to buy course material (perhaps even that he is the author of) from the bookstore. Most people do bring their particular biases to the table when they sit on committees. The only way to ensure a balanced outcome is to have ALL of the stakeholders at the table. LUSU was refused as a stakeholder.

Finally, LUSU has asked that the

university put Mr. Labelle's verbal guarantee in writing, protecting the LUSU employees of the bookstore by negotiating a Letter of Understanding with LUSU regarding the university's intentions for these employees. If the university intends to honour Mr. Labelle's verbal pledge, then why has Mr. Labelle refused to put it in writing? Mr. Branko Rayakovich, Director of Human Resources has also been present at the meetings LUSU was asked to attend, and still no written guarantee. This only leads me to believe that the university has no intention of abiding by what I've been told verbally. It is LUSU's greatest fear that by the time our current contract runs out June 30, 2006 that these employees will no longer be LUSU members.

I think it is fair to say that with the contracting out that is currently occurring in the Maintenance/Physical Plant area, and now the bookstore, that the university fully intends to eventually eliminate as many full time, staff union positions, with benefits, that it possibly can in order to at least have the appearance of improving the fiscal bottom line. This is detrimental in the long run to the university and to Sudbury. This university can not operate without its staff. We are as integral to the success of Laurentian, one of the biggest employers in this city, as the faculty. The LUSU membership will most certainly see this as a major issue during our next round of negotiations, and I dare say that it will become a strike issue. I would suggest, however, that if the university must contract out, we can certainly contract out some major management areas such as Purchasing, Finance, and Human Resources. Removing these managers salaries and benefits from the university's fiscal responsibility will certainly save a huge amount of money, and it might even solve some the current labour relations problems that these offices create.

Sincerely,

Tracy S. Oost
President
Laurentian University Staff Union

CAMPUS NEWS

Black History Month wraps up at Laurentian



Participants in the Laurentian University African Caribbean Students Association take part in a Rwandese dance during a celebration held on March 5th in conjunction with Black History Month.

Photo Supplied

BY NEIL ZACHARJEWICZ
ASSISTANT EDITOR

As the month of March comes to a close, so too does Black History Month. Often mistaken for an American occasion, Black History Month is also celebrated in Canada. In fact, it is also celebrated on Laurentian University's campus.

Black History Month is an important occasion for the Laurentian University African Caribbean Students Association (LUACSA), who this year enjoyed their biggest event to date. According to LUACSA President Sochima Egbeocha, the celebration began in late February, with a kiosk in the bowling alley every Wednesday and Thursday to share with students artifacts and information about the African and Caribbean cultures. The kiosks were used to raise awareness of black history, but also served to lead into LUACSA's main event, which was held in the Great Hall on March 5th.

"We had over 300 people attend," Egbeocha said. "It was amazing. I was impressed. We were surprised more by who attended than by the number of people."

Egbeocha explained that there were many people from off-campus, people who live in Sudbury, who turned out to take part in the event.

The event featured food from both the African and Caribbean traditions, as well as some Canadian food "for the less adventurous," she said. It also included a fashion show, primarily showing

clothing from the African tradition. The show also featured a performance from dancer 'Motto.'

"He performed a dance from the Congo," Egbeocha pointed out, adding that he also performed a fire dance. "It was very exotic."

There was also a performance from Akabafusion that highlighted the differences in culture from West Africa, South Africa and Central Africa. The performance included a Rwandese dance, much to the delight of the participants.

"A lot of people attribute slavery to America," Egbeocha said. "A lot of people don't realize there was slavery in Canada."

Many Canadians, she said, point to the Underground Railroad as evidence that there was no slavery in Canada. The truth is, however, that while blacks living in the United States came to Canada to be free, the slaves that were already in Canada remained slaves. It was only after a long and slow process that Canadian slaves became free, she said.

"A lot of people don't realize there were black inventors," Egbeocha noted.

On the topic of inventions, she pointed out both the light bulb and the traffic light were invented by black inventors, though they are most often attributed to white inventors.

"An event like this is normally good so that you can explain things that people don't know," Egbeocha said.

But the event was not just intended to be a celebration of

what has passed, but also a celebration of the different cultures. She noted that as a first generation Canadian, she said it is nice to be able to share a glimpse into her own culture with others.

"It's kind of cool that we get an opportunity to do that," she noted.

But Egbeocha also noted that an event of this magnitude would not have been possible without the support of many people in the university. She pointed out that both the Students General Association and the International Students Association offered their assistance, and there were many members of the university faculty who contributed both money and time to the event. Diane Massicotte, in particular, was a big help this year, she noted.

Egbeocha explained that, in the past, the event was something that was organized by the students.

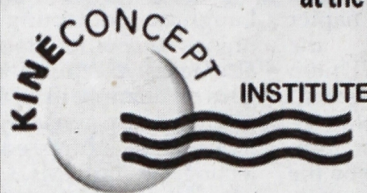
"This year we decided to reach out to the departments (in the university) for help," she said. This year marked the 10th anniversary of Black History Month in Canada, but Egbeocha pointed out that many people do not know very much about it. That's why this year's event, and the success it enjoyed, was so special.

"We had been planning it since October," Egbeocha said. Now, she noted, awareness has been improved on campus, people know have gotten to know that LUACSA is a presence on campus.

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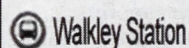
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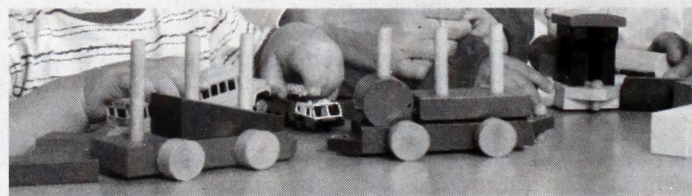
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STUDENT PROFILES

Many doors open for Blanchard

BY CHRIS BLOMME
LAMBDA CONTRIBUTOR

Christal Blanchard is a sports enthusiast. She loves basketball! Basketball and science absorb her life at Laurentian. She is in her last year in the "Biochimie" program.

Christal was born in Sudbury and grew up in the New Sudbury region. She went to public school at Felix-Ricard. Her high school years were spent at College Notre Dame. When asked if any thing stood out that stimulated her interest in Science she gave an interesting answer. "Yes, I recall my English teacher, Karen Lindquist stimulating my interest in science." It was during the time of Dolly the sheep and all the media hype about cloning. Her English teacher suggested she do a term paper on cloning. Christal immersed herself in this project. She became exposed to molecular biology and got interested in genetics and its science. The world seems to be evolving with the advent of genetic manipulation and the possibilities of cloning individuals. "Science seems to be a continuum" and it is fascinating, according to Christal.

Christal recalls always having an interest in health care and sports. At the end of high school, it was time to select an university. "Why did you pick Laurentian?" I asked.

"Basketball" came the answer. This coupled with science was important to her. She played basketball at Laurentian for three successive years, starting in her first year. The team, during this period, won many national awards and ranked in the top 10. There were other reasons why Laurentian was chosen. Close proximity to home helped considerably in the pocket book. "Do you have any regrets about your choice?" I asked. She stated that the excellent student and teacher ratio was a real bonus for her. She learned a lot.



CHRISTAL BLANCHARD

"While at Laurentian, what teachers stood out for you?" I asked. Carol Stos, her Spanish teacher in modern languages, left an imprint. Christal took Spanish in first year and fourth year. She joined in the student exchange program to Mexico and spent the summer of 2004 in that country. It is here that she excelled in her linguistic interests. There were two other teachers that stood out for her. Dr. E. Gauthier in Biochimie, and Dr. R. Michel, Behavioural Neuroscience and Human Kinetics. Christal remarks that Dr. Gauthier really helped with the concepts of recombinant DNA and its implications with cloning and genetics. "Dr. Michel has shown me the side of passion for science the tremendous amount of dedication to work ethics when striving for discovery," she said. Both gentlemen are supervisors for her fourth year thesis.

The age old question comes next. "What do you want to do with your life?" I asked. Christal has left many doors open for her. She has applied for teachers college, pharmacy school and a masters program in Science. There are still a few more hurdles to jump before her decision will be made. Bonne chance, Christal!

Grad school in Tabigue's future

BY CHRIS BLOMME
LAMBDA CONTRIBUTOR

Michelle Tabigue has a bubbly personality. She is a fourth year Neuroscience student with a special interest in herbal medicines. The two make an interesting combination.

Born in Iligan, in the Phillipines, she moved to Canada at age 15. North Vancouver quickly became her home where she finished her high school years at Carson Graham. She became a Canadian Citizen. She was fortunate in having learned the English language at a private school during her youth.

Not one to jump into an education choice that may not do her justice, she decided to enter the working force for two years after high school. She became a barista, enhanced her conversational skills and knowledge of human interaction. Her place of employment was close to the offices of CBC Radio and Television. Government and library office workers were frequent customers. As a coffee connoisseur and provider, her work allowed her the chance to meet many people. She laughingly recalls meeting Robin Williams at least twice. Michelle took a number of night courses at the Capilano College during these isabatical years.

Taking the time to think things through was an important decision even though University was always likelihood, she stated. She always had an innate interest in biology and a special interest in the nervous system. Predating public access to internet she did what most people did then, and went to the library to check on the university calendars. She found three schools that offered neuroscience. Laurentian became her choice through chance. The summer prior to her enrol-

ment she went to University of Montreal to work on her French. Just before she went there, Laurentian's acceptance letter beat the other two schools in the mail. At age 20, it was "Laurentian, here I come." She didn't even know exactly where Sudbury was.

As a first year student, there is a tendency to get lost in the crowd. Her first encounter with the head of the Neuroscience program at Laurentian was at the Cipaca store at residence. Never one to hold back (synonym, "shy"), she went over to the professor and introduced herself. This is one of the traits that she states makes LU stand out. The fact that you can approach the professors and be met with acceptance. Her meeting was memorable. Three years later she is applying the finishing touches to her fourth year thesis in Neuroscience. Her presentation to her peers is in early April.



MICHELLE TABIGUE

What professors stand out for you? Many names came to mind. She states that Dr. Mallory, the chair in Biology was always available "with open door" if there were questions she needed aid with, during his courses. Linda St. Pierre was of immense help. Dr. Persinger, head of the Neuroscience program, showed me "how I could accomplish goals I never felt I could achieve." She is appreciative for these learning experiences.

"Where will you go from here?" I ask. "West, and grad school," was the answer. "There are a number of opportunities that interest me." For example, Lethbridge in Alberta has recently opened a Canadian Brain Injury Centre. They are tied in with the University of Calgary and she sees an opportunity to pursue animal research in this important area. We wish her well in her endeavours. Good luck Michelle!

One final reflection on life at Laurentian University

BY TARYN GREEN
LAMBDA CONTRIBUTOR

I am reminded of Laurentian as I read the following said by Daniel Webster (1782-1852), "It is, sir, as I have said, a small college — and yet there are those who love it."

I walked in September of 2001, shy, nervous and a little scared. I walked in knowing exactly who I was and the direction I wanted my life to take, or so I thought. It has now been four years at Laurentian; four years of roaming the hallways, meeting profs, and forming lifelong friendships. It has been four years of tears and of laughter and most of all, growth. They say to enjoy it, because these college years are the best years of your life and finally, I would like to say, somebody was right about that. In June, I will be graduating from Laurentian University with an Honours BA in English Literature. It took me four years to figure out just a tiny piece of the person I want to become, and somewhere amongst the vast corners of an institution, I found my niche. For those of you just finishing your first year, let me tell you, discovering that person you want to be is a long process; a process of constantly trying new things and figuring out what you love and what you hate. I encourage you to always get involved and try anything that interests you, because you'll always regret the things you didn't do.

The journey through university is different for everyone. Some are lucky enough that they know exactly what they want to do from the moment they first step foot through the doors of LU, and others, like me, take four years before it all starts to come together.

There is something unique about the atmosphere at a university. Though Laurentian is small

and sometimes feels like a highschool, there is still a sense of freedom that comes along with it. The small classes create a sense of community within the department and bonds are formed over the four years from seeing the same familiar faces. Most professors get to know their students very well and encourage them to pursue their dreams and meet their goals. I know there are professors like that in every department at Laurentian, the ones who believe in us, challenge us, and inspire us to become revolutionaries of our generation. On behalf of your students, I thank you.

For those of you who have one, two or three more years left, I encourage you to get involved. There is so much going on at Laurentian, you might have to go out and look for it though. Be adventurous and open-minded and never limit yourself to anything or anyone. The more people you know, the more you learn about yourself and the world around you. There is much more to be learned at University than just what you read in textbooks and listen to in lectures. There is a world of opportunity at your fingertips, a chance to get involved and make a difference. Speak your mind, voice your concerns and change the world, because we all have the power to do so.

And for those who are graduating, how will you remember Laurentian University? Think of who you were when you first walked in and who you are now as you walk out. Think of all that has changed you in the people that you will never forget for as long as you live. Your belief system or ideologies have been forever altered and you see the world very differently now. Though uncertainty plagues the ground you walk on, there is so much awaiting you. There is so much that you can achieve with all that you have learned here. You all have the power to be someone great and to

inspire people in the same way that you were once inspired.

The years spent at university fly by. I will miss this little place I called home for four years. Though some of you are itching to get out and experience the real world, be sure to take with you all you have learned at Laurentian. There are many things that I'm sure you will not miss, but as you receive your diploma and walk away from Laurentian forever, remember everything that you will be leaving behind. Your footprints are forever embedded within the hallways, your thoughts and ideas float in the air and add to the foundation of this school. You have made a difference and you will not be forgotten.

I walked in with certain expectations, beliefs and goals, but what I realized was that university, like anything else in life, is a journey; a journey with unexpected twists and turns in a journey in which I encountered situations and people that have changed my life. I walk out with much more: a totally different set of beliefs, I've reached a few goals but have set many more to attain, and I have formed strong relationships with wonderful people. Though university provided me with many answers, it also challenged with a million more questions, and many of those questions do not have a right answer. I was taught to think critically, maintain an open mind and accept the world and the people that live within it. As you graduate, take with you that voice you discovered here at Laurentian, never let it die. Dare to be different and stand up for what you believe in. We are indeed the next generation of great thinkers, we are the revolutionaries of tomorrow. So, as you walk away remember the words of Chief Seattle who once said, "Take only memories. Leave nothing but footprints."

AUTOPINION

Pritch Picks: The 2005 Kia Rio *Inexpensive - but is it cheap?*



BY JUSTIN PRITCH
LAMBDA COLUMNIST

Kia is the fastest growing car company in North America, and the Rio is their least costly car- so I thought I'd do my last review this year on it, to try and sort out whether this cut-rate compact was in fact "cheap" or not. This is a very inexpensive car, you can get one for \$11,995 if you pay cash. There is also an available \$500 discount for recent grads.

The Rio is not a powerful, sporty, eye catching sort of vehicle but rather an exercise in offering a basic package. If you have limited funds and are ready to retire your old beater, it's definitely worth a look. The base model comes with dual airbags, power steering, ABS brakes and a CD player; not a bad start. Add the 100,000 kilometer bumper to bumper, powertrain and body perforation (rust through) warranties and it looks even brighter. Roadside assistance is provided for five years as well. It sounds like Kia doesn't think its Rio is "cheap" given all this coverage, but it exists in arguably the most competitive segment in the automobile market today. Features and options are present but price and quality are where the competition really gets intense, and this means more value for consumers. Warranty coverage is having more and more of an impact on the perception of quality and reliability.

Inside, the Rio is sparse. The execution of the interior is simple: 3 gauge instrument cluster, CD player, standard bits of storage space as well as some reading lamps and a place to put your sunglasses overhead. It doesn't try and grab your attention with flashy chrome or colored stitching, but Kia have still managed to make it inviting with warm colors and easy entry through each door. The rear legroom is a bit cramped, but at nearly 6 feet tall, I wouldn't be spending too much time in back. I had plenty of headroom and the seats are comfortable once you are settled in. There is plenty of room up front, and great visibility. The blind spots are minimal, and the windshield "A pillars" are small and unobtrusive. Everything is laid out at arms reach and once you get in, and it takes no time to learn where the few controls are so you can focus on driving. I really appreciated the build quality inside while traversing Barrydowne Boulevard. As the potholes and ruts tried to swallow the poor Rio, everything inside proved to be solid and tight- no annoying squeaks or rattles here. I couldn't help but think that the people who make the Hummer H2 should come to Barrydowne Boulevard for their off road testing.

Up front is a tiny 1.6 liter engine which makes just over 100 horsepower. That's not a lot, and I definitely wouldn't recommend trying to pick on any Mustangs at the lights. But that isn't the point- the Rio gets over 40 miles per gallon on the highway. Under light throttle, the engine emits only a distant mellow hum. Open the throttle and it makes its voice

heard as it tries to hurry the car along. Its not bad sounding either, I've heard much worse sounding engines. This isn't the kind of car which you can demand a lot of in the performance category, but it doesn't demand very much of you as the owner either. The automatic transmission is programmed well to make most use of the available power, not trying to push you into the next gear as quickly as possible, and holding each gear even under only moderate throttle. Upshifts at moderate throttle are silky smooth, and downshifts are fairly quick and solid. If you cannot drive a manual though, this car would make the perfect excuse to learn- the mileage is better on a standard Rio, and a manual box makes even better use of the 104 horsepower.

Around corners, the Rio's little 14 inch rims and tires grip the road well, but the body has a tendency to wallow sideways, which isn't very confidence inspiring. You'll need to get used to the cars handling before making any sudden maneuvers- there is a decent level of grip, it's just not delivered very gracefully. Obviously, the suspension is not set up for performance, but rather comfort, which it achieves well. Kia offers lowering springs as an option which I would recommend if you like twisty roads. The steering is very light but reasonably sharp, and for the price, the ride quality is really very good. Only the largest of bumps upsets the Rio's pleasant attitude while cruising along.

I don't like antilock brakes, so I wasn't expecting to like the ones on the Rio. I'd already driven a pair of roughly \$25,000 cars this year, both of which braked well without ABS so I didn't figure the system on a car for ten grand cheaper would be particularly good. I was wrong though. The ABS action only kicks in right at lockup and doesn't overreact to your pedal inputs. If you are a fan of ABS, this is the way it should be set up- leaving most of the work to the driver. Total stopping power was more than adequate, and the chassis remained focused while stopping and cornering hard.

All in all it has been a challenge to sort this car out- the Rio drives along, but not in a hurry. It handles, but not very sportingly. It rides very nicely, has comfortable seats, and it stops properly but it doesn't turn peoples heads or do anything particularly interesting. It does have a decent list of standard features, a terrific warranty, and treats the environment and your wallet with the utmost respect. Above all this, it really isn't a cheap car. It feels solid and tight, maybe even tough behind its cute fascia. I think the best way to get across what this car really is all about is to imagine you're still in high school, and all the cool kids have cars, and you aren't one of them (I wasn't). This was a time in your life when a car was nothing more than a means to be mobile, to be free and to escape, nothing else. If you still value these things, and only these things from a car, then this is likely the best \$12,000 will get you.

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SGA ELECTION RESULTS

Congratulations, you're almost there!



CATHY CARROLL

The end of the year is drawing near, essays, presentations and assignments are piling up and the threat of exams is looming near! Have no fear, you are almost done! As you are no doubt aware, last week we had the SGA/AGE elections. You are probably more aware of this due to the missing posters that formerly covered the walls of every corridor in this school. I want to assure you that it has been asked of all candidates that they recycle their campaign posters. I would like

to congratulate Luke, Shailagh, Shanna, Erica, Tasha, and Alex on their successful campaigning. I wish you all the best of luck in the upcoming year; I'm sure you'll do great! To those who have been acclaimed, best of luck to you also. On the election ballot, there was a referendum question asking students if they would be in favour of a phased in fee to build a new student recreation centre. The question had a very high approval rating of 77%, so thank you to all who took the time to

vote, and I'm sure future students for many years to come will thank you for the new facility. The election of these positions means that my year as president is coming to an end. I have had a fabulous year, learned so much about this University, its administration and how it functions and I would like to thank you all for allowing me the opportunity to be president and serve you. To those of you who are graduating, congratulations, you are almost there and you deserve it! For the rest of

you, have a great summer, rest up and get ready to finish your remaining years here at Laurentian. Laurentian University has been my home for the past five years and I honestly can not think of any place I would have rather been. So thanks for the memories! Good luck to all of you on exams and have a great summer!

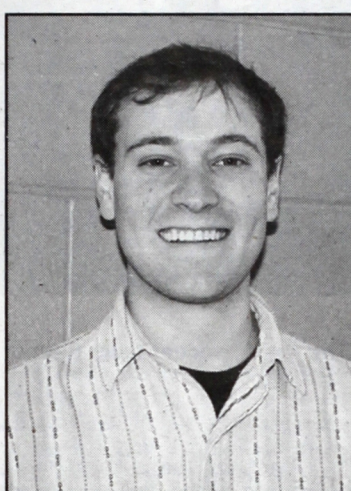
Cheers,

Cathy Carroll
President, Students' General Association

Victorious SGA candidates thank their constituents

Hello fellow SGA/AGE Students! I would like to begin by saying that it is an honour to have been selected to be your President for 2005-2006. You can rest assured that I will work very hard to ensure that next year is the best one that it possibly can be for all students. There are many things I will be working on over the summer and the next school year. I will work very hard to try and get universal bus passes brought back to the table, and regardless of what happens with the negotiations there, I will push the city very hard to bring back a bar bus for the residence students. I also want to strengthen the SGA/AGE's commitment to you by ensuring that you are all informed of what is going on with your student union. This includes personally emailing you on a regular basis to inform you of events, issues, and upcoming meetings. I will also be bringing the SGA/AGE into the residences at least once a month to provide students living on-campus with a forum through which to let the SGA/AGE what you want or need from us. I will also ensure that regardless of what else I am doing, I will always be available to any student to come to for help with a problem. I am really looking forward to working for you and with your SGA/AGE executive next year. I truly believe that next year will be one you will all be very happy with, and I am very happy to be able to play a role in that. Have a great summer and I'll see you in the fall!

Luke Norton, President Elect



I would like to start by thanking you for the honour of serving a second term as the Vice President of Student Issues on your SGA. This past year, we saw many amazing successes, and we bonded together as students to work for change in our universities and on our campuses.

As I promised throughout the campaign, next year will provide you, as a student, with many opportunities to get involved. Indeed, democracy and political activism starts, not ends, at the ballot box.

Next year, the provincial Liberal government will be moving to end the tuition fee freeze in Ontario. As students, we simply cannot let this happen. We have to step up our efforts, double and triple our numbers, and quite possibly take the streets once again.

Furthermore, it has been echoed again and again that we need cheap long term bus passes for students. My research has yielded this: those campuses with the most active participation of its general membership - the ones where students are the most vocal and visible - are most likely to have fair and equitable deals struck. We are not the first campus in Ontario to get affordable year-round student bus passes, and let us not be the last!

As year 2004-2005 winds down to a close, I cannot help but smile when I look back on this year, and all of the collective efforts it brought as we took matters such as tuition fees and safer spaces into our own hands. My grin widens when I know that you are willing to do it all over again. It is not me that you have reelected, after all. It is you.

Shailagh Keaney, Returning VP Student Issues



I would first like to thank all students who made the effort to vote during the 2005/2006 SGA elections-your contribution is invaluable to the strengthening of the student voice within Laurentian University. This year, the SGA saw a significant increase in Laurentian's voting population, a momentum we hope to see continually enlarge in years to come. For those of you who are not familiar with me, my name is Shanna Denis and I have been elected to be the 2005/2006 Vice President of Student Services for the SGA. As such, I would also like to thank those who thought I would be the best candidate for the position and cast a vote in my favor; I promise you will not be disappointed!!

I have many great hopes and ideas for this upcoming year, and am look-

ing forward to planning an unforgettable year of events! Frosh week will rock, Charity Ball will be beautiful and new events will be introduced along with the signature events hosted by the SGA every year. Some ideas I hope to bring in next year include a charity football tournament, the reintroduction of spirit cards, a winter carnival (I'm up for suggestions regarding activities at this event), more theme nights/weeks in the Pub such as Beach Week, and much more.

I would like to invite anyone who is interested in getting more involved in the organizing of events, or would like advice regarding club funding and activity planning, to come and see me. My door will always be open, as will I to any suggestions or ideas you might have regarding the SGA's events and services. I'm here to listen, I'm here to serve, so get involved and together we can make your next year at Laurentian unforgettable!! If you have any questions or comments, feel free to e-mail me at sj_denis@laurentian.ca. Si vous avez des questions où des commentaires, envoyez moi un courriel à sj_denis@laurentian.ca.

Shanna Denis, VP Services Elect



To the students,
Hi everyone! Thank you for your support in the election! I am looking forward to representing you on the Senate next year. I will work to make sure that the student voice is well represented at every senate meeting. I also plan to be an active member of the SGA/AGE board and help out with as many activities and services as I can.

As Senator my job is to represent you. Next year I would like to see greater awareness and more discussion about the decisions made on Senate. It is very important to me that I make it easy for you to participate and voice your opinions. I plan to write a report of every senate meeting and make it readily available. Once you have the information about what goes it will be easy for you to get involved in the decision-making process. I hope that you will feel free to email me at el_robinson@laurentian.ca with your questions, suggestions, and comments.

Erica Robinson (Senator Elect)



Finally, the pressure is off and we have next years SGA. It's been such an incredible experience to run for Senator. I'd like to thank everyone who came out to vote. I'm Tasha Denis and one of next years three Senators. As most people know from my last article, I'm a second year history major who had acted as treasurer of the history society and has planned two trips within that group. These are experiences that I will never forget and skills that I will build upon to accomplish my position.

It is my greatest hope for next year to fulfill my responsibilities as Senator and truly represent the students and their concerns. The Senate will be strong for the 2005-2006. The Senators (Alex, Erica and I) have great dynamics and I'm sure we will be able to work off of each others methods to truly explore options and concerns within the issues raised. It is essential for the students to approach us in voicing their concerns. Don't hesitate in stopping me to chat, I'm always available.

Tasha Denis, Senator Elect



LAMBDA SPORTS

Sports Editor: Kris Harris - lambda_sports@laurentian.ca

Voyageur recap for 2004-05

With the school year nearly finished, and the varsity teams preparing for a long summer of training to stay in game shape, this is the perfect opportunity to revisit the performance of the Voyageurs and the Lady Vees this season.

Women's soccer



Kris Harris / LAMBDA

The women's soccer team enjoyed a successful season and an exciting playoff run this year.

The Lady Vees women's soccer team was far and away the most surprising success story that the varsity program provided this year. Expectations for the team were low; nobody at the school or in the province thought the Lady Vees were going to do anything spectacular in 2004. But those doubters were sorely mistaken.

The ladies went on an amazing stretch to start the season. They went undefeated in their first eight games of the season, piling up three wins and five ties, before losing their last two regular season games. Even more amazingly, the team scored shutouts in their first seven games, only allowing a total of five goals over the ten-game season. Keepers Julia Boschetto and Katie McNamara split the duties between the pipes for Laurentian.

But the playoffs was where this team thrived, taking their game to a whole other level.

The team started their playoff run with a strong showing against Brock, beating up on the southern team on their home field thanks to a two-goal performance from team leader Kristy MacKenzie. Next came the real test; the Lady Vees squared off against York, their division-leading rivals, in the quarter-finals. York had only lost one game all year, and they were heavily favoured to beat Laurentian.

However, the team's trademark defense stood tall, keeping the game scoreless at the end of regulation and sending it to penalty kicks. The Lady Vees, who had been practicing penalty kicks for just such a situation, managed to outshoot the Lions by a 3-2 margin and move on to the next round.

Unfortunately for the team, the final four was as far as they would go. The Lady Vees lost a heartbreaker to eventual provincial-champion Western in the semi-finals, and then came up short in the bronze-medal match up with Toronto, placing the team fourth in the OUA. But, with many of the core players returning next year, as well as coach of the year Rob Gallo, the future surely looks bright for this unsung team of heroes.

Men's soccer

Conversely, the Voyageurs men's soccer team had a disappointing year in 2004. The highly-touted team was expected to go far in the OUA playoffs, but were not able to deliver the results.

The men were able to produce offense; at times, they seemed to score at will, weaving up and down the field with the greatest of ease. Joe Jesseau had a breakthrough year for the Voyageurs, scoring seven goals for the offense-minded squad.

But, inconsistency was the main problem for the Voyageurs. They would follow up big-effort wins with stagnant losses; they weren't able to string more than two wins together at a time. The tough division they were in didn't help matters, as they were forced to the road for their first playoff game despite their five-win season. A two-goal game by Giuseppe Politi, including the winner late in the second half, propelled the team to the quarter-finals for a match with Brock.

Unfortunately for the team, they couldn't get their offense off and running in the quarter-finals, losing by three to the south-division leading Badgers and ending their season in disappointment.

Jesseau and Politi were named first-team all-stars for their efforts this year. Jeff Collins and Stephen Soutar both got the nod as second-team all-stars.



Kris Harris / LAMBDA

The men's soccer team did not play up to its expectations or potential this year.

Women's cross-country

Another team that had a productive year in 2004 was the Lady Vees women's cross-country team. As of November, with the season over, the Lady Vees were ranked tenth in the country.

Leading the team were two exceptional runners: Leila Angrand, the second-year athlete who took the gold medal in all three regular season events that she competed in; and Kirsti Dolson, the outstanding rookie who won two bronze medals early in the year and continued to improve in each race as the season moved on.



The women's cross-country team ran with the best of them this year. The team finished ninth at the OUA's and 13th at the national championships in 2004.

The OUA Championships were held in Toronto at Sunnybrook Park. Angrand, who had been battling a hamstring injury for a few weeks put in an impressive performance. Despite the injury, she managed to take the bronze medal at the provincial championship for the second straight year, putting the finishing touches on an excellent year in the OUA. Dolson managed to take 22nd place in her first OUA finals; she was the third rookie to cross the line at the event. Overall, the Lady Vees finished ninth in the team rankings.

The CIS national championships were next, where the team took 13th place in the overall standings, an impressive finish for a national event. Angrand again led the way for the Lady Vees; unfortunately, she re-aggravated her hamstring injury early in the race, causing her to finish in 41st place, much lower than expected. Dolson finished a few seconds behind her teammate, taking home 46th place, a strong showing for a rookie.

Angrand was also named to the OUA all-star team for the second year in a row for her strong season. All in all, this young team is looking to take great strides next year to remain at the forefront of cross-country running in all of Canada.

LAMBDA SPORTS

Sports Editor: Kris Harris - lambda_sports@laurentian.ca

Voyageurs recap for 04-05, continued

Swimming

The Aqua Vees men's and women's swimming teams made waves this year with some strong individual and team performances. The men's team were the stronger of the two; they are currently ranked eighth in the country. Leading the way for the men was phenom Marshall Bonner, who had another outstanding season in the pool. He won a bevy of gold medals in the regular season meets, remaining virtually untouchable in the backstroke events. On the women's side, second-year swimmer Stephanie Kuhn had some good results throughout the year, winning several medals.

The teams both performed extremely well at the OUA Championships,



The men's swimming team, who are currently ranked eighth in the country, had some great individual performances this season.

held at Brock University this year. Laurentian walked away with seven medals at the three-day event: two gold, one silver and four bronze.

Bonner was single-handedly responsible for both golds; he continued his dominance in the 50-metre backstroke, defending his title from the previous year. He also won the 100-metre backstroke event. The only other individual medals for the men came in the 400-metre individual medley, where Colin Jenkins and Ryan Smith finished second and third respectively. The men's team also won two medals in relay events, taking the bronze in both the 4X50-metre freestyle and the 4X100-metre freestyle events.

The only medal for the women at the OUA's came from Kuhn, who managed to take the bronze in the 100-metre freestyle race on the final day of the competition after finishing fourth in two other events. Overall, the men's team finished in fourth place in the team standings, while the women took sixth.

Next up for the teams was the CIS national Championships, held in Edmonton. Unfortunately, Laurentian had no podium finishes at nationals, but the men's team still managed to come away with a tenth place in the overall standings, securing their national ranking. If they maintain their training during the off-season, there's no telling what feats these swimmers can accomplish next year.

Women's basketball

Next up is the Lady Vees women's basketball team; this squad was ranked high nationally before the season even started. They proved themselves with a strong 15-7 regular season record, setting themselves up for a first-round playoff game at home against Ryerson. The Rams fought hard, but they were no match for the powerhouse Lady Vees, eventually falling in the final minute of the game and losing by four.

That placed Laurentian in the quarter-finals against Toronto. The team put in a gutsy road performance, winning the game handily and moving on to the semi-finals. The semi-final was a rematch of the semi-final from a year



Kris Harris / LAMBDA

The women's basketball team had a successful year, but came up just short of making it to nationals. With several key players leaving the team, it will be tough for them to repeat their good results.

earlier, against Ottawa, and the Lady Vees were looking for redemption.

Unfortunately, the team came up a few free-throws short of winning the game and a national tournament berth, losing by six points and putting a disappointing end to a great season. The Lady Vees were well-represented in the individual awards, however, winning three of the possible four.

Cassandra Carpenter was definitely the star of the team, and she was rewarded for her efforts. She became only the second player in league history to win both the Player of the Year and Defensive Player of the Year awards in the same season, maintaining her dominance of the hard court. Graduating team captain Tierney Hoo also got in on the award action, winning the prestigious Joy Bellinger award for sportsmanship, academia and community involvement. Carpenter obviously got a first-team all-star nod, and Hoo got on the second team. Rookie Amanda McConnell rounded out the awards for the Lady Vees by being added to the all-rookie team.

With five players graduating, the team will have to rely more on its bench players from this year. The recruitment process has also already begun; a few top prospects have already committed to Laurentian, and the team will look to rebuild quickly to compete next season for an OUA championship.

Men's basketball

The Voyageurs basketball team had an average season, on par with their expectations; the streaky team was on a rollercoaster ride of ups and downs throughout the year. The season started poorly for the unit as they lost their first five games. But, with grit and determination, they managed to bounce back and beat some pretty good teams. At the midway point of the season, the Voyageurs had improved their record to 3-7.



Kris Harris / LAMBDA

The men's basketball team had another disappointing season this year.

However, the team came out flat to start the second half, and went on another five-game free fall. After that, the team woke up and played much better, winning five of their last seven games to finish in sixth place in the East with an 8-14 record.

They were faced off against the always-tough Ottawa Gee-Gees in the first round of the playoffs and, despite working extremely hard, found themselves on the bottom end of a 79-65 score, thus eliminating them from the playoffs.

Standout Ben Palmer was named to the second all-star team for his efforts. Palmer will be returning to the team next year, and will have to continue his strong inside game if the Voyageurs are going to succeed. Graduating point guard Andy Greig made a name for himself by setting a new career CIS record for free-throw percentage. Greig made an astounding 92.75 per cent of his free throws over his five-year career, obliterating the former record.

Without Greig, the team will be forced to spend a lot of time recruiting if they hope to improve on this year's results.

Nordic skiing

The last team to begin its season was also the last team to finish this year. The Nordic ski teams had a very successful run this year, adding to its already impressive totals.

In the first race of the year, Laurentian had some good results; for the women, Emily Morel took third place overall, and Carley Kenwell finished in sixth spot, while the men were led by Paul Lammens, who finished sixth, and Phil Wood, who took home seventh.

In the second race, veteran Rob Bewick managed to bring home the silver medal, and Wood finished in ninth for the men. For the women, Morel and Kenwell both had impressive finishes.

After those races came the OUA Championships, where the men's team had two strong performances once again. Bewick continued to dominate, winning three silver medals at the event, while Wood finished sixth in the overall standings. For the women, Morel won a bronze medal in the first race and took fourth overall, and Kenwell was awarded seventh place in the overall standings. As a team, the men won the silver and the women took the bronze at the provincial championships.

The teams then sent four skiers to the national championships in B.C. Unfortunately, due to poor weather conditions, the meet could not be completed, but Bewick still managed to win the bronze medal in the 15-kilometre pursuit event, putting a cap on an excellent season and career. Bewick, as well as Morel, will both be graduating this year, leaving a few holes on the strong team.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Arts & Entertainment Editors: Ben Rowe and Robin Crowder - lambda_arts@laurentian.ca

Summer in the City:

Lambda's list of things to do in Sudbury this summer

BY ROBIN CROWDER
A&E EDITOR

Classes are almost over, exams are fast approaching and summer is just around the corner. No doubt many of you are faced with the age-old university summer situation dilemma: head back to the family homestead, or stay up here in the house you have to continue to pay rent in. Though the decision is rarely an easy one, there's got to be something that tips the scale a little, and as for a summer in Sudbury - well, it's a lot better than a winter! The city has a surprising number of ongoing events during the summer that just might make it worthwhile to find yourself a job up here and save the effort of packing for four months! Check out some of these fun and interesting things the city of Sudbury is preparing to offer you this summer...

April

Morgan's Magic

Not quite summer time, but maybe for a study break; on Thursday April 15th at 10pm comedian/magician Dylan Morgan will be performing some slight of hand comedic magic at Cambrian College's bar On the Rocks. The cover charge is only \$3 for this event, tickets are not required, and the show is geared at an older crowd with a 'close-up' style of magic.

May

A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum

Taking place at the Sudbury Theatre Centre from May 5-22, this extremely funny and Tony-Award nominated show centers around a Roman slave's crafty schemes and plots to gain his freedom. With characters created by witty Larry Gelbart (of M*A*S*H fame) and music by Steven Sondheim, this tale of lust, lunacy and mischief is sure to please everyone. Tickets are \$14 for students with varying show times. Call 674-8381.

Garson Open Air Concerts

This ongoing event presents small shows with a variety of genres and acts to be held outdoors beside the Garson Community Centre on Church Street. Not all acts have been booked or defined, so call 693-7230 for more information if you're into the emerging musical scene and are looking to just chill out on a warm night.

June

Blues for Food Festival

In late June every year, tons of Sudburians take to Bell Park to enjoy blues music, good food, children's activities and other games in support of Sudbury's Food Bank. Performers are yet to be announced for this year's June 25th show, but admission is only a non-perishable food item, so why not check it out!

La fête de la Saint-Jean Baptiste

This event is held in various locations across greater Sudbury from June 23rd-25th and cele-

brates the French national holiday. The official day to party is June 24th which is a Friday, so grab your fleur-de-lis, some good Québec beer and take the opportunity to celebrate - if anything, its good practice for Canada Day which is the following week.

Craft Fest

While I'm not sure if this is actually still happening this year, the craft show is usually Northern Ontario's largest and takes place in Bell Park towards the end of June.

July

Canada Day celebrations

Put together by Science North and the Sudbury Multicultural Folk Art Association, Canada Day activities for 2005 are to be held in Bell Park and other locations. This event will feature mostly family fun activities, with fireworks in the evening, but be sure to check out any of the multiple bars and night hotspots downtown as they will surely have some sort of party going on!

Italian Festival

From July 7-10th come and celebrate Sudbury's Italian culture and heritage at the Caruso Club on Haig St. Come on, who can resist all that pasta...and wine...

Northern Lights Festival Boreal

This festival is held from July 8th-10th in Bell Park and promotes a variety of entertainment with workshops, performance and visual arts, ethnic foods and different headlining entertainment each night. Again, headlining acts have yet to be confirmed so keep watching local newspapers and news, or email info@nlfb.on.ca.

Sudbury Dragon Boat Festival

The ever popular event is back for yet another year, and is totally worth checking out! Teams from all over Ontario - including some from Laurentian - enter into this race with the goal of sharing the tradition of dragon boating. Aside from the races, the festival will feature an array of cultural performances designed to reflect Sudbury's ethnic mosaic. You can't fully understand the power of the boats until you watch the races, and chances are some one you know will be competing, so head on out and show your support.

Blueberry Festival

Time to celebrate those little blue fruits that fill pies and muffins so nicely! From July 17th-24th at Memorial Park come and taste what Northern Ontario has to offer. The festival usually offers something for everyone with, from pies to preserves, and it doesn't take much time to stop in for a quick taste. On July 23rd, head down to Market Square for the Blueberry Bash which further celebrates the "royal fruit".

Greek Festival

From July 22nd-24th come and participate in ancient traditions at the Hellenic

Centre...mmm...baklava...

August

Hoedown

Yes, you read that right - it's Hoedown time! Celebrate all the country traditions with corn roasts, chili cook-offs, country music and wagon rides in one convenient location! This event takes place in Market Square on August 20th, and is sure to provide you with a few good laughs along with some good eats!

Sudbury Summerfest

The ever popular festival is back yet again, this year from August 26-28th. This event features everything from family fun to concerts and is usually sponsored by Labatt's and Q92 Rock. During the day, children's performers, magicians and numerous buskers can be found strutting their talents around Bell Park. Come night fall, the emphasis is more on adult fun with multiple stage performances providing nonstop music. Last year, featured performers included Backroads, High Definition, Thornely, Aimee Leonard, the Forcefuls and a few oldies tribute bands - just to name a few. Tickets are usually about \$35 for a weekend pass which gets you unlimited admission to all daytime or evening shows.

14th Annual Canadian Garlic Festival

Who knew...I mean really! Well for all the garlic lovers out there, it sounds like something interesting to check out from August 27-28th at Hnatyshyn Park downtown. For the really adventurous, try the 4th annual Great Garlic Walk in the same location. For more info call 673-7404.

And there you have it folks...the hottest things in Sudbury to date! Bear in mind that it's still really early and things are often not announced until much closer to the actual performance date (ie, the Tragically Hip concert at LU last year), so keep your eyes and ears peeled. Of course, all your favourite bars will continue to offer great weekend parties, made even better by the fact that patios will be open, and you won't have to freeze waiting in line outside! Check out acoustic Wednesdays at Books and Beans on Durham St, or the small scale Friday night indie band shows at Habbana's. Throughout the summer, these places and many more will continue to offer live music and bands to keep you entertained, but talk to individual bars for concert line ups.

If it's more leisure and recreation that will keep you in Sudbury this year, keep in mind that the city has a ton of sports organizations that offer things such as baseball, softball, ball hockey, ice hockey, soccer and swimming. Or, if playing it isn't your game, children's teams are always looking for volunteer coaches so why not support the community this summer? All in all, it seems that if you decide to spend the four months in Sudbury and don't have classes to keep you occupied, there's surely enough going on that you won't wind up bored! Have a safe and happy summer!



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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Arts & Entertainment Editors: Ben Rowe and Robin Crowder - lambda_arts@laurentian.ca

The Havocs play for the joy for making music

BY BEN ROWE

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Paul Loewenberg is a busy, busy man.

If you take a look at all the things this man has on his plate, you can't help wondering how he doesn't drop from sheer exhaustion.

He plays in three bands off and on and performs solo several times per month. He is the booking agent, promoter and manager of local live music hot spot the TowneHouse Tavern. He books the Northern Lights Festival Boreal, is a board member of the Ontario Council of Folk Festivals, volunteers at the Laurentian radio station, CKLU and is involved in numerous music workshops and discussion panels.

If you read the last paragraph out loud, you'd have to stop for breath several times.

But for Loewenberg, all his labour is done for love. The man just loves music.

"I love all music; can't get enough of playing," he told me. "If I could make a living at it, I'd play every day of my life."

But Loewenberg realizes his limitations - musically, at least - and plays when he can.

"There's also the matter of knowing your place in the hierarchy of things," he said. "I'm not an incredible guitar player, I'm not an incredible singer. I'm average; but I have a passion for playing. I'm a good sideman, I enjoy playing bass for bands and other instruments."

Loewenberg plays some guitar, bass, keyboards, mandolin, banjo and harmonica, meaning he's in good position to explore his curiosity and love of so many different



Photo supplied
Sudbury band 'The Havocs' includes front man Paul Loewenberg, Mitch Houle on drums and Jeff Houle on guitar.

kinds of music.

Since moving to Sudbury and getting his degree in sociology, Loewenberg has become a large presence in the local music community. Among the bands he has played with are Bleak, Little Sir Echo, the Mondo Idols and the Havocs. About the only thing these bands have in common is some of the group members. The music of each band is wildly diverse, from the instrumental surf sounds of Little Sir Echo and the ska-flavoured Mondo Idols to the garage punk/rock of the Havocs.

The Havocs are in many ways Loewenberg's favourite band to play with. Not only is he friends with drummer Mitch Houle and his guitarist brother Jeff Houle, but the band feels closest to truth to Loewenberg.

"I enjoy being the frontman of the Havocs, and I don't think there's really any

other kind of band that I could be a frontman for," he said. "If I have to put all my energy and passion on the line, that's how it comes out, is loud, aggressive garage music; there's no way around that."

"If I could be a soul singer, then, you know, I would be," he continued. "If I could choose my musical style, then I'd be Al Green, or Marvin Gaye. But you can't choose how your vocal chords are formed."

Playing with a brother team makes the Havocs special for Loewenberg as well.

"There's a thing about playing with brothers, because whether or not they've always played music together, they've been walking and talking the same rhythms together, they've been performing with each other since they were born, essentially, whether it was with guitars or not," he explained.

"A band with brothers - or sisters, or siblings, whatever - there's always sort of an understood and understated synergy; it's tight."

Being the primary songwriter for the band helps, too, and Loewenberg cited this as another reason why the Havocs are so much fun for him.

"The thing about the Havocs was, it always seemed to be my songwriting band," he explained. "The Havocs was a band that, right when we started off, was my band to write songs for."

The band put out their first album, a self-titled seven-track effort, in 1996. It was recorded in the then-new Easter Island Studios in Sudbury. They followed that seven years later with 2003's "Bad Day," recorded with Alan Pigguns at his Toronto studio.

"He's got a great ear, and it was a nice little studio," Loewenberg said of the experience. "We did it fast, in two days."

The group made 1000 copies of their cd, and it was reviewed locally and in Exclaim and Chart magazines. While there were no bad reviews, Loewenberg said, one reviewer spent more time trashing Sudbury than examining the album.

"It's a shame... Exclaim magazine, they gave it to a guy who spent more time talking about how surprised he was about getting a garage album from Sudbury; figuring that everyone would just be sitting back, drinking Budweiser and listening to Loverboy in Sudbury."

While the review was only available online, Loewenberg's rebuttal letters were printed in the magazine, getting the Havocs

some free publicity.

Generally, though, Loewenberg doesn't sweat the small stuff. He keeps on writing songs. He said there are enough Havocs tunes ready for another album, but, like so many small, independent artists, the financing is the hard part.

"Find some money, save up; work and gig and try to save up a few thousand dollars, we'll get in and make it," Loewenberg said stoically.

As long as he gets to play music, Loewenberg can be content.

"There's nothing else that I want to do," he said, and that's a large part of the reason Loewenberg is so active in the local music community.

"I think it's important to have artistic things going on in the community. It adds to the quality of life in the community."

"People work whatever jobs they're going to work in their lives, and that's a third of what they do with their life. Another third they spend sleeping, and the other third, well, what are you going to do with it? You going to watch TV? Go to movies, go shopping, subscribe to everything that they tell you in newspapers and magazines and advertising, or are you going to be a part of your community, interact with people? I'm a large advocate of being a social community, of people getting together and singing, dancing, and being social. Philosophically, that's it: because you want to live in a community that is positive, where people respect each other, people understand each other, and that is achieved through people being social."

Laughing Buddha Cafe opens its door on Elgin St.

BY BEN ROWE

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

It may not look like much now, but by the time Bernie Desjardins is done, the Laughing Buddha Café will make a mark upon the Sudbury scene.

Desjardins, a local business owner, has bought the property at 194 Elgin, formerly called This Ain't the Only Café, which closed its doors a few months ago. Desjardins is in the process of renovating the interior of the café; he's been doing the majority of the work on his own, a process that has taken about a month.

"It's been hard work, for sure," Desjardins said from the inside of his gutted café.

"We had hoped to have it open for April first, but we've had to push it back a week or two," he explained. "We think by the second week of April, we'll be up and running."

Desjardins, who also owns the TowneHouse Tavern down the street, said the purchase of the café,

while it promised to be a fun and interesting venture, was done at least partly defensively.

"I wanted to get it before anyone else did," he laughed. "I thought it would compliment nicely what we have going on at the TowneHouse."

The new café will be licensed and serve a variety of drinks. You can even spice up your coffee with some Bailey's or whiskey if you want.

Also licensed will be the patio, which runs the length of the building between the Laughing Buddha and its neighbour and is enclosed on either side by fences. Shade is provided by trees at either end, ensuring patrons will enjoy a relaxed, secluded environment to enjoy their drink of choice.

The Laughing Buddha will serve a variety of foods as well, according to one of its managers, Matt Foy. His menu plans include sandwiches, salads, and the house specialty, omelettes. Foy may decide to add pizza as a menu

choice at a later date, but right now all he's concerned about is getting the café up and running.

"Right now we're just focussing on getting this place opened," he explained, "and then we're going to work on cosmetics afterwards."

The goal, Foy said, is to make sure the café has a "friendly, welcoming atmosphere."

"We want it to be a place where people sit down to read the newspaper and relax," he continued. "Whether you work downtown, are a student, whatever, we want to be a place that offers people a chance to chill out."

Whatever steps are required to help make it a welcoming environment, he'll take, he said.

Since the café plans are still in their infancy, Foy and Desjardins are playing with several ideas to attract customers.

They have tentative plans to have some form of live music on certain nights, whether it be an acoustic song set or even some

poetry reading.

Since Artists on Elgin is two doors down, Foy has considered getting some murals painted or having some artwork on hand.

"We're inviting artists to bring down their portfolios," he said. "If any artists are out there who want to bring in their work, bring it, show us. If they've got good ideas, fine with us."

And the name? Foy explained that he, Desjardins, and a few friends came up with it.

"We were going to call it the Hungry Buddha, but the imagery was all wrong for that," he laughed. Instead, they recalled a cartoon character, a Buddha who carried around a sack of gold and was always laughing.

Foy and Desjardins are in the process of hiring employees for the Laughing Buddha.

The people they employ had better be ready for a fun ride, because the Laughing Buddha promises to be an entertaining little place.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Arts & Entertainment Editors: Ben Rowe and Robin Crowder - lambda_arts@laurentian.ca

Local bands Fleshcraft and Beyond Within bring metal back to Sudbury

Continued From Page 1

The band strives for excellence, Howitt said, which is why they didn't play the new material they have been working on.

"We're trying to test ourselves - with every new song we write, it has to be challenging and harder than the last one we wrote," the singer said. "That's the way we've always written. Every song has to be crazier and crazier."

That's why the band members take their time developing the music they attach their name to.

"It takes us months to write a song because we're so picky about what we want to play," Sanders said. "Sometimes it takes so long, and sometimes it happens so quick - it just depends on the flow that we're in. If we're in the zone, a song can be done in one night."

However, Fleshcraft has completed the writing of two new songs: 'Chainsodomy', a gory song self-explanatory by its title, and 'Voice of Reason', which carries a different message.

"Some people struggle in their lives with drug abuse, with depression, and the 'Voice of Reason' is about looking within yourself and conquering whatever this world has to throw at you," Howitt said. "No matter what, your mind is stronger than anything that's thrown at you, and that's the message of our song."

New tunes weren't necessary for the crowd; they soaked in the set of old ones like a sponge to water, many of whom screamed the lyrics back at the group throughout the set, proving that the metal scene in Sudbury still has some survivors.

"We've started something here (Sudbury), and we've got to keep playing shows here," Demers said. "Obviously we love playing songs for the people here, and hopefully people get to like our shit and keep the metal scene alive."

Next up on the hard-hitting bill was Beyond Within; this local six-piece features Todd Pidgeon on the mike, Darren Favot on keyboards, Paul Larochelle on drums, Chris Finlay and

Chad Condratto on guitar and John MacRae on the bass. These guys offer the average metal-head something different from the norm.

"We're more melodic, technical metal," Macrae said. "More guitar-work than anything else."

The rhythm-guitar player agreed with this sentiment, and elaborated.

"We're just trying to write music that everybody can relate to," Condratto said. "As far as metal goes, it might be hard to get certain people to enjoy your music, but I find some of the stuff we write, we can entertain a whole different variety of people. We seem to get everybody to like us, and that's what we're striving for - we want to create our own style of music, and go with that."

The group attributes their original sound to the fact that they all have different musical backgrounds, running the gamut from punk to grunge to country.

"We introduce everything," Larochelle said. "If everybody puts in their ideas, it makes the music that much better."

The meld was a success; the crowd roared their approval throughout the extensive set, which included a couple of Iron Maiden classics as well as material from both the first album, "Belligerence" and the newly-released "Evil Minds". The latter CD deals with some heavy material in the lyrics, including Nazi Germany.

"On the newer album, there's one about the Nazi's - the actual foot soldier that sends the Jews to the incinerator," said Pidgeon, the band's head lyricist. "I mean, he can do that, but what's his excuse. He's killing millions of people."

The overall success of the show would seem to indicate that the metal scene in Sudbury is alive and well, despite evidence to the contrary.

"It used to be a little more intense, there were a lot more bands on the scene," MacRae said. "The scene in general has kind of died off, but there's still a few bands, and we're trying our best to claw our way back into the scene and get more people exposed to the kind of music that we play."



Kris Harris / LAMBDA

(Top) Fleshcraft gives the crowd exactly what they came to see - hardcore heavy metal. (Bottom) Beyond Within shows off their unique sound to the metal lovers. "Evil Minds", the band's second CD, effectively displays their individual talents.

QUEBEC STUDENT STRIKE

Last year, the Government of Québec cut \$103 million from the student grants program. According to the Fédération étudiante universitaire du Québec and the Fédération étudiante collégiale du Québec, this cut resulted in a 62% increase in student debt. Meanwhile, there is concern that the shift from grants to loans is a prelude to deregulating tuition fees for all Québec students. Currently there are no tuition fees for colleges in Québec, and university tuition fees have been frozen for 31 of the past 36 years.

In response to the cuts to grants, over 30 students' unions from universities and colleges in Québec have held or are holding campus referendums to get a mandate for an unlimited student strike. On Thursday, February 24, Québec media reported more than 30,000 students had commenced strike action and more students' unions are expected to follow.

All Canadian students have a stake in supporting students in Québec in the fight for affordable post-secondary education. Low tuition fees in Québec serve as a model for "reduce tuition fees" campaigns across Canada. Maintaining a great system in Québec will help maintain the momentum in provinces with tuition fee freezes (British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario, and Newfoundland & Labrador), and turn things around in provinces like Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, and Saskatchewan.

SCIENCE OPINION

Sports Editor: Kris Harris - lambda_sports@laurentian.ca

Inco needs to take advantage of opportunities with Laurentian to stem tide of pollution

BY KEVIN ROCHE

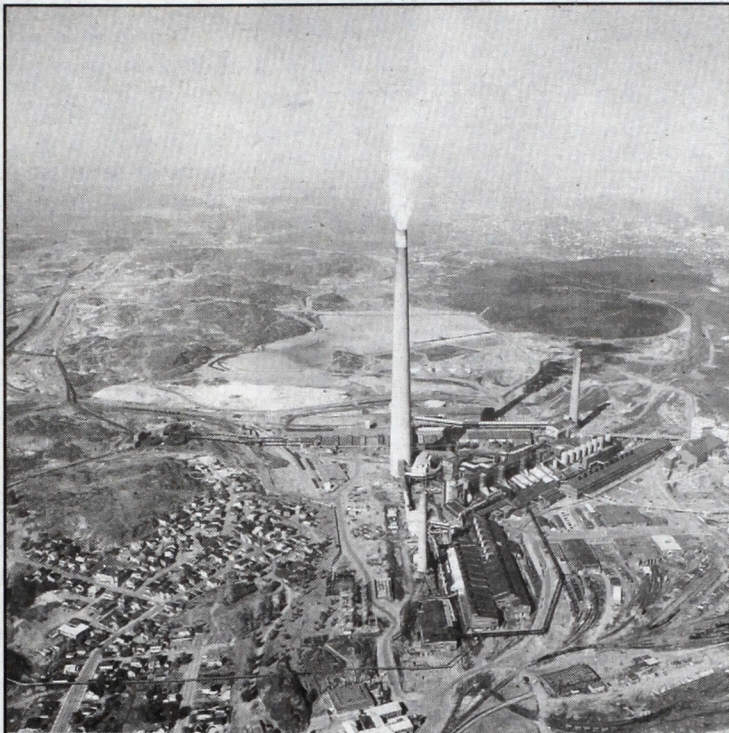
SCIENCE & TECH EDITOR

Inco Limited, well known to the people of Sudbury as it employs over 4,500 workers in the area, and has been in production since 1902, is a Canadian-based global company present in over 40 countries. World wide, Inco employs over 10,000 people in its mining operations, production facilities, research centre, and through its marketing and sales network. In 2002, Inco's revenues totalled \$2.2 billion, owned \$8.5 billion in assets, and had an annual net loss of \$1.5 billion.

Inco is one of the world's biggest mining and metals companies and the world's second largest producer of nickel. Inco, along with the Russian conglomerate, Norilsk, and another Canadian mining multinational Falconbridge, supply almost half of the global demand for nickel - an important component for stainless steel.

Inco is also a producer of copper, cobalt and precious and platinum-group metals and a major producer of sulphuric acid and liquid sulphur dioxide.

All of the mining, milling, smelting and refining of metals done by Inco uses a lot of energy and creates a lot of pollution. In 2001 Inco consumed 14,805,555-kilowatt hours of energy globally to produce 475,000 tonnes of



An aerial view of Inco's Copper Cliff operation.

metal products. It is equivalent to 21,150 ten year-old refrigerators running for one year in Canada. The amount of water consumption used by Inco totalled 20,600 million litres of water.

In Ontario, during May 1 to December 31 2001, Inco released 157,850,798 kg of sulphur dioxide (SO₂) into the atmosphere making them the highest polluter of SO₂ in the province with 43.66% of the entire sulphur dioxide released during that time. In comparison with Falconbridge, another

Sudbury mining company, they produced 21,742,290 kg of sulphur dioxide during that same time period.

In the past several years Inco has faced environmental violations that have resulted in fines amounting to over \$380,000 dollars. In 2002, Inco was fined \$5,000 for discharging effluent with elevated pH levels into Junction Creek from the Garson Mine in Sudbury from March 12 to 14, 2000. In 2003, Inco faced penalties from the Ontario Court of Justice which resulted in fines which totalled

\$375,000 after Inco pleaded guilty to five charges that were related to sulphur dioxide releases from the Copper Cliff Smelter Complex.

In 2003, a report issued by the Canadian environmental organization, Pollution Probe, stated that Sudbury's nickel producers could commit to higher levels of pollution reduction. The environmental organization is calling for a 75-per-cent reduction in the sulphur dioxide emissions released by Inco and Falconbridge by the year 2015.

The Ontario Ministry of the Environment has been working on bringing in stronger laws to reduce emissions of pollutants that cause smog, acid rain and climate change in Ontario. Part of the environmental protection plan is new sulphur dioxide (SO₂) emission regulations for Inco and Falconbridge operations in Sudbury. Together, the nickel producers account for 40% of Ontario's total SO₂ emissions.

Sulphur dioxide is a leading contributor to acid rain, and scientists warn that unless a dramatic reduction is made, 95,000 lakes in southeastern Ontario will become acidified. Pollution Probe is pushing for big emission cuts so that improvements in environmental and human health can be achieved in the shortest amount of time. The organization said in their report that Inco and

Falconbridge could achieve an 85 percent reduction in toxic substance emissions by 2015.

Reducing the levels of SO₂ would protect aquatic ecosystems and benefit human health by reducing the number of premature deaths, emergency room visits and asthma attacks. Cleaner smelters that emit less SO₂ also emit fewer heavy metal contaminants, many of which cause cancer.

The technological changes needed to clean up Inco's Sudbury operations have already cost hundreds of millions of dollars and will cost millions more, but the company appears willing to spend the money.

Through the integration with Laurentian University, Inco Limited can take advantage of the universities resources and find new approaches to cleaner environmental practices. This could be achieved through research conducted by specialized research students in academic fields ranging anywhere from engineering, biology, and even to labour studies students who can find effective ways to improve working conditions for employees to promote a stronger workforce. Doing so would not only benefit Sudburians, but also Canadians as a whole as we work together to promote the guidelines set out in the Kyoto Protocol.

Rules, regulations govern the world of animal testing

BY KEVIN ROCHE

SCIENCE & TECH EDITOR

Recently in some of the washrooms around campus stickers have been placed up that are in support of ending animal research. "Stop Animal Testing!" they announce. I came across these stickers when I was using one of the urinals in the washroom across from the computer lab in the Classroom Building. It was placed overtop the advertisements that are placed there by Zoom Media. It was refreshing to see something different than ads trying to get me to join up in the military or to join up on some new cell phone plan.

Anyway, I read the sticker and thought it was too bad for these animals that they are being tested on. It's really not fair that animals are being used in this way, placed into inhumane situations where scientists may be able to conduct experiments that are often cruel and unusual. On the sticker was a website for more information on the subject (<http://www.stopanimaltests.com>).

After I washed my hands, I went back to the computer lab where I was working on an essay and I decided to take a moment to visit the website. When the page loaded there were images of animals in cages, many of them looked unhappy. There was a large headline that read, "Not Ours to Experiment On." I

surfaced around the website looking for further information about the subject, it told me about how the government uses public money to provide funding for research and there was also more information on using animals for testing and research purposes.

After thinking about the situation for a moment, and understanding that research on animals takes place in many educational facilities, I thought that maybe I could find out more about animal research and some of the controls that are put in place to make sure that scientist's are not abusing animals.

Later that week, I took some time out of my day on one Sunday afternoon to go and speak with one of the research scientists at Laurentian who conducts animal research. After speaking with her about some of the research that she has been conducting at the facilities in the university, she began informing me about some of the politics that are associated with animal testing.

Right inside the laboratories at Laurentian is an Animal Care Control office that supervises all of the experiments that take place within our institution. They overlook all of the procedures, they identify the parties involved, and they know exactly what is going to be taking place. Anything that doesn't fit their protocol, or that they feel it would be

unnecessary to involve live animals, doesn't get approval and the research is never conducted.

Online I found one of the websites that lists the protocols that Laurentian University must abide by (http://laurentian.ca/admn/GRAD_STUDY/RESEARCH/ACC-AUP.doc). You can see for yourself that there is heavy government regulation concerning this matter. In fact, there are several government regulations and agencies related to animal testing. Among them are the Ontario Animals for Research Act, and the Canadian Council on Animal Care Guidelines for the Care and Use of Experimental Animals. It is a requirement that all researchers who will be conducting research, testing or teaching projects at Laurentian University involving the use of animals must obtain the approval of the University Animal Care Committee (ACC.) before beginning the project or before ordering animals.

The researcher nice enough to speak with me also talked about when research fails and when negative results are found. Usually in these situations, when there is government funding involved, after a review of the experiment, the funding can be cut from the researchers. This is something that scientists must deal with before beginning their experiments.

These, of course, are all meas-

ures which are able to ensure that scientists are not conducting bizarre experiments on defenseless and unknowing animals. When Animal Care was originally developed, its regulations were quite reasonable. Since then, Animal Care has developed into a tightly regulated board (It even specifies the style of water bottles that are to be used in the animal's cages.)

The Laurentian University researcher also expressed her concern about tight regulations. She felt that creativity and intuition is being lost because of the levels of red tape that researchers must go through. It was also expressed that several great scientific discoveries are rarely predicted but rather occur on behalf of a researcher acting on a hunch. In the end, this may be limiting some of the opportunities for science graduates.

After an examination of the animal research conditions at Laurentian University, I didn't see anything that really stood out as inappropriate. Through reason, one can clearly understand the benefits that animal research has been able to provide for humans. If one feels strongly against animal research, why not take a moment to speak with Animal Control at Laurentian to see what they are doing to protect animal's interests and possibly recommend some changes that you feel would be suitable in the current situation.

CAMPUS NEWS

Laurentian students fall for power tumbling

BY BEN ROWE
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Three Laurentian students and their LU coach have a date in Halifax in May. They just need a little help getting there.

The three students are gymnasts - power tumblers, specifically - who have all qualified for the Eastern Championships to be held at Dartmouth University from May 20-22. In order to pay for the trip, they need to raise somewhere between \$750-\$1000 each.

Their coach, fourth-year LU sports psychology student Mandy Rymal, is going as well. What makes the accomplishment special is that the three students are all first-year tumblers.

The power tumbling program at local gym GymZone had been defunct for four years prior to this year due to a lack of coaches available. Now, however, Rymal has restarted the program - with stellar results.

Power tumbling requires athletes to run a 26-metre runway supported underneath by iron bars which provide a springboard effect, allowing for complicated turns and flips in the air.

Sylvain Bastien, a first-year student in the francophone physical education program, qualified third in Ontario to earn the right to compete against the best in Canada in Halifax. Always an active child, Bastien came to tumbling quite naturally.

"I've always liked tumbling; I was basically self-taught," he said. "I wanted to take things to the next level, so I came here (GymZone) and got the structure that was needed to get the right technique."

He credits GymZone and Rymal with helping him learn how to tumble properly.

"I basically had to start over from scratch in terms of technique, because it's such a big part of the game. Everybody has the same skills; it's the technique that wins the battles, the execution."

With his improved technique, Bastien was able to become a Level B competitor in power tumbling. The highest attainable level is A.

Bastien, 18, has been teaching and performing gymnastics since the age of 13. He currently coaches 15-20 hours per week, dividing his time between GymZone and coaching a boy's team in Dowling, just outside Sudbury. Since the team also trains four to six hours every week, Bastien has the equivalent of a full-time job, making it difficult to balance school with his true passion.

"It's got it's hard points," Bastien said of splitting his week between school and tumbling, "but it's good because it gives me an excuse to get out of the



Ben Rowe / LAMBDA

Chantal Longchamps, Sylvain Bastien, Jeannine Fillo and Mandy Rymal (back) are all LU students going to Halifax in May to compete in the 2005 Eastern Championships as power tumblers.

house and do something for myself, rather than just study."

First-year education student Jeannine Fillo, 18, had a gymnast father, so she was always around gyms growing up. She also feels the strain of balancing school with sport.

"In a normal week it's okay," she said, "but when you have exams and stuff it's pretty hard; you just have to manage your time well."

Fillo qualified second in Ontario in Level C power tumbling. She does it mostly for fun, rather than as a potential future profession. Fillo plans to participate in tumbling again next year, and will make a decision on a year-to-year basis after that, depending on how difficult the education program becomes.

Even now, Fillo said, she has to manage her time carefully to ensure she has enough of it to go around.

"When you study, you actually have to study; you can't procrastinate," she laughed.

Chantal Longchamps, 18, is also a first-year education student. With the demands of school, she didn't have enough time in her week for artistic gymnastics, so she decided to give power tumbling a try. She qualified as an alternate for the Ontario team going to Halifax.

Longchamps coaches about two hours a week at GymZone and fills in for others when needed, as well as her four to six hours training for tumbling.

Coach Mandy Rymal was in gymnastics for about eight years before becoming a Level 3 power tumbler for three years. She brought her experience to bear to start anew the power tumbling program at GymZone, and is proud of the team's accomplishments.

"For a first-year team, we've done so, so well," she said. "It's so great coaching these guys. I look forward to it (coaching), it's something I do that gets me away from school and schoolwork."

Rymal used her experience as a gymnast to help her gain perspective as a budding sports psychologist. She said she may stay in gymnastics in some coaching capacity, but is not averse to team sports.

"It's interesting to see other gymnasts' problems," she said. "Now I can figure out ways to talk to them. I can help them out."

Rymal has plans to pursue a Master's in the near future, and is considering Ottawa or the University of Alberta, a sports powerhouse, as possible destinations.

But Rymal and the athletes have more immediate concerns. They need to finance their trip to the Eastern Championships, and have come up with various fundraisers in the month of April to help themselves.

On April 8, GymZone is holding an open house between 8:30 and 10:30 pm. People can pay between five and seven dollars to play on all the equipment, including several trampolines, a giant foam pit for leaping into, and the various gymnastics equipment, including the vault, uneven bars and the balance beam. GymZone is on 1311 Gemmel Street in New Sudbury, off Barrydowne.

The next day, Westmount Public School is hosting a home décor party. Starting at 1:30 pm, visitors can order various home furnishings and trappings and the team gets 30 per cent of the profits.

That will be followed by a night of bowling on April 22 from 10 - 1 pm at Holiday Lanes. There will be 50/50 draws as well. Tickets for bowling are \$12.

Rymal and her crew are also appealing to the Sudbury corporate community for help.

For more information on any of the events, contact Rymal at am_rymal@laurentian.ca.

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YEAR IN REVIEW

Tragically Hip play on LU campus



Kris Harris / LAMBDA

Over the summer of 2004, The Tragically Hip dropped by the Laurentian University campus and performed as a part of Sudbury Bluesfest. The Hip played an excellent, one-and-a-half hour show, including two encores. The event, held at the University track between July 23-25, was considered a huge success by both organizers and music fans alike.

DAY OF ACTION



Debbie Sauve / LAMBDA

On February 3, Laurentian hosted the northern Ontario venue for the provincial Day of Action. Pictured here is Duncan Adams, a Laurentian student who participated in the rally

Music Program hangs in the balance



Kris Harris / LAMBDA

This year, Huntington's Music Program saw many changes and endured many ups and downs along the way. Before Christmas, it was announced that Huntington would suspend the program. This decision caused uproar on campus and throughout the greater community. On January 26, Laurentian President Dr. Judith Woodsworth announced that Laurentian will pick up the program. Lambda will continue coverage of this story in the upcoming year.

Rick Mercer visits Laurentian



Kris Harris / LAMBDA

Rick Mercer visited the Laurentian campus on Nov. 16 to film a segment for his show, *Monday Report*. Pictured here with Mercer are Medical Biology students Robbie Pastre and Kristin Hepting. The episode featuring Laurentian aired on Monday, Nov. 22.